

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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53

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

AID-20 OMB-01 CU-04 RSR-01 /108 W

----- 096470

R 311705 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8426

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

USCINCSO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GEORGETOWN 0773

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y ( M R N 7 7 3 V I C E 7 3 3 )

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS : PINT, GY

SUBJECT: NEW VOTING LEGISLATION

REF: GEORGETOWN 0763

1. PROPOSED NEW ELECTORAL LEGISLATION ( REFTTEL) INCLUDING VOTE FOR 18 YEAR OLDS, NEW POSTAL VOTING ARRANGEMENTS, AND REVISED PROXY VOTING SYSTEM SUBMITTED TO NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AS REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ( ADAPTION AND MODIFICATION OF LAWS) BILL, 1973. ALSO INCLUDED WAS PROVISION REMOVING LIMITATION ( NOW 7) ON NUMBER OF NON- ELECTED MINISTERS WHO CAN BE APPOINTED TO CABINET BY PRIME MINISTER.

2. IN SURPRISE MOVE, OPPOSITION REJECTED ATTEMPT TO REDUCE VOTING AND PARLIAMENTARY QUALIFYING AGE TO 18. AS ENTRENCHED PROVISION OF CONSTITUTION INVOLVED , 2/3 MAJORITY REQUIRED TO  
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PAS S. GOV' T ABLE MUSTER ONLY 35( PNC-30, INDEP-5) OF NEC-  
ESSARY 36 VOTES. BILL QUICKLY RESUBMITTED WITHOUT REJECTED  
CLAUSES AND PASSED. MORIBUND UNITED FORCE ( UF) VOTED WITH  
OPPOSITION PEOPLES PROGRESSIVE PARTY ( PPP) AGAINST MEASURE.

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH IN PAST PPP HAS SUPPORTED 18 YEAR OLD  
VOTE, OPPORTUNITY TO EMPHASIZE FACT PNC DOES NOT YET HAVE 2/3  
MAJORITY EVIDENTLY IRRESISTABLE. AS IT GENERALLY ACCEPTED  
THERE MORE YOUNG EAST INDIANS THAN AFRICANS, PPP MAY NOT HAVE  
ACTED IN ITS OWN BEST INTEREST. KING

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NNNNMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 31 MAY 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** hilburpw  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973GEORGE00773  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** n/a  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** GEORGETOWN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730556/aaaajwyz.tel  
**Line Count:** 76  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 73 GEORGETOWN 0763  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** hilburpw  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 15 JAN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

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**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 980310  
**Subject:** NEW VOTING LEGISLATION  
**TAGS:** PINT, GY, PINT  
**To:** ARA  
BRIDGETOWN  
KINGSTON  
PORT OF SPAIN  
SECSTATE WASHDC  
USCINCSO  
**Type:** TE

**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005